

2 Maccabees 6



1611 King James Version

Compiled By M. Love

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**Also read 2 Maccabees in the
1535 Coverdale, 1537
Matthew's, 1539 Taverner's,
1540 Great Bible, 1560
Geneva, and the 1568 Bishop's
Bible versions.**

2 MACCABEES 6

**6=1 Not long
after this the
king sent an
old man of
Athens to
compel the**

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**Jews to depart
from the laws
of their fathers,
and not to live
after the laws
of God:**

**6=2 And to
pollute also
the temple in
Jerusalem, and
to call it**

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**the temple of
Jupiter
Olympius; and
that in Garizim,
of Jupiter the
Defender of
strangers, as
they did desire
that dwelt in
the place.**

6=3 The

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**coming in of
this mischief
was sore and
grievous to the
people:**

**6=4 For the
temple was
filled with riot
and revelling
by the
Gentiles, who**

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**dallied with
harlots, and
had to do with
women within
the circuit of
the holy
places, and
besides that
brought in
things that
were not**

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lawful.

6=5 The altar
also was filled
with profane
things, which
the law
forbiddeth.

6=6 Neither
was it
lawful for
a man to keep

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**sabbath days
or ancient
fasts, or to
profess
himself at all to
be a Jew.**

**6=7 And in the
day of the
king's birth
every month
they were**

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**brought by
bitter
constraint to
eat of the
sacrifices; and
when the fast
of Bacchus
was kept, the
Jews were
compelled to
go in**

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**procession to
Bacchus,
carrying ivy.**

**6=8 Moreover
there went out
a decree to the
neighbour
cities of the
heathen, by
the suggestion
of Ptolemee,**

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**against the
Jews, that they
should
observe the
same fashions,
and be
partakers of
their
sacrifices:**

**6=9 And whoso
would not**

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**conform
themselves to
the manners of
the Gentiles
should be put
to death. Then
might a man
have seen the
present
misery.**

6= 10 For there

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**were two
women
brought, who
had
circumcised
their children;
whom when
they had
openly led
round about
the city, the**

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**babes handing
at their
breasts, they
cast
them down
headlong
from the wall.**

**6= 11 And
others, that
had run
together into**

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**caves near by,
to keep the
sabbath day
secretly, being
discovered by
Philip, were all
burnt together,
because they
made a
conscience to
help**

2 MACCABEES 6

**themselves for
the honour of
the most
sacred day.**

6=12 Now I
beseech those
that read this
book, that they
be not
discouraged
for these

2 MACCABEES 6

**calamities, but
that they judge
those
punishments
not to be for
destruction,
but for a
chastening of
our nation.**

6= 13 For it is
a token of

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**his great
goodness,
when wicked
doers are not
suffered any
long time, but
forthwith
punished.**

6= 14 For not
as with other
nations, whom

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the Lord
patiently
forbareth to
punish, till
they be come
to the fulness
of their sins,
so dealeth he
with us,
6= 15 Lest that,
being come to

2 MACCABEES 6

**the height of
sin, afterwards
he should take
vengeance of
us.**

**6=16 And
therefore he
never
withdraweth
his mercy from
us: and though**

2 MACCABEES 6

he punish with
adversity, yet
doth he never
forsake his
people.

6=17 But let
this that we at
spoken be for
a warning unto
us. And now
will we come

2 MACCABEES 6

**to the
declaring of
the matter in a
few words.**

**6=18 Eleazar,
one of the
principal
scribes, an
aged man, and
of a well
favoured**

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**countenance,
was
constrained to
open his
mouth, and to
eat swine's
flesh.**

**6= 19 But he,
choosing
rather to die
gloriously,**

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**than to live
stained with
such an
abomination,
spit it forth,
and came of
his own accord
to the torment,
6=20 As it
behoved them
to come, that**

2 MACCABEES 6

**are resolute to
stand out
against such
things, as are
not lawful for
love of life to
be tasted.**

**6=21 But they
that had the
charge of that
wicked feast,**

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**for the old
acquaintance
they had with
the man,
taking him
aside,
besought him
to bring flesh
of his own
provision,
such as was**

2 MACCABEES 6

lawful for him
to use, and
make as if he
did eat of the
flesh taken
from the
sacrifice
commanded
by the king;
6=22 That in
so doing he

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**might be
delivered from
death, and for
the old
friendship with
them find
favour.**

**6=23 But he
began to
consider
discreetly, and**

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**as became his
age, and the
excellency of
his ancient
years, and the
honour of his
gray head,
whereon was
come, and his
most honest
education from**

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**a child, or
rather the holy
law made and
given by God:
therefore he
answered
accordingly,
and willed
them
straightways
to send him to**

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the grave.

6=24 For it
becometh not
our age, said
he, in any wise
to dissemble,
whereby many
young persons
might think
that Eleazar,

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being
fourscore
years old and t
en, were now
gone to a
strange
religion;
6=25 And so
they through
mine

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**hypocrisy, and
desire to live a
little time and a
moment
longer, should
be deceived by
me, and I get a
stain to mine
old age, and
make it**

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abominable.

**6=26 For
though for the
present time I
should be
delivered from
the
punishment of
men: yet
should I not**

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**escape the
hand of the
Almighty,
neither alive,
nor dead.**

6=27

**Wherefore
now, manfully
changing
this life,
I will shew**

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**myself such an
one as mine
age requireth,
6=28**

**And leave a
notable
example to
such as be
young to die
willingly and
courageously**

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**for the
honourable
and holy laws.
And when he
had said these
words,
immediately he
went to the
torment:
6=29 They that
led him**

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**changing the
good will they
bare him a
little before
into hatred,
because the
foresaid
speeches
proceeded, as
they thought,
from a**

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**desperate
mind.**

**6=30 But when
he was ready
to die with
stripes, he
groaned, and
said, It is
manifest unto
the Lord, that
hath the holy**

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**knowledge,
that whereas I
might have
been delivered
from death, I
now endure
sore pains in
body by being
beaten: but in
soul am well
content to**

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**suffer these
things,
because I
fear him.**

6=31 **And thus
this man died,
leaving his
death for an
example of a
noble courage,
and a**

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**memorial of
virtue, not only
unto young
men, but unto
all his nation.**

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